

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Wind River/Bighorn Basin District Lander Field Office 1335 Main Street Lander, Wyoming 82520

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| BLM | Report #: |
| 050-2 | 2014-107 |
| Proje | ct/Case/Lease |
| #: | |

August 25, 2015

AUG 25 2015
DEQ-AML Lander

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Marcia Murdock Abandoned Mine Lands Coordinator Department of Environmental Quality Lander Field Office 510 Meadowview Drive Lander, Wyoming 82520

Re:

The Proposed Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality's AML Project 17I, South Pass Shafts and Adits, Report 4: Atlantic city and Miners Delight Area Mines, Fremont County, Wyoming (BLM Report Number 050-2014-107).

Dear Ms. Murdock:

With regard to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is communicating with you on the subject undertakings. The proposed undertakings consist of a proposed mining reclamation-related project.

A Class III inventory of all areas of potential effect, following the Archeology and Historic Preservation: Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines (48FR190), has been conducted by **LTA**, **Inc.** for the proposed undertaking, as indicated in the attached report. Identification efforts have determined that the resources listed in the following table are within or near the area of potential effect.

| SITE NUMBER | SITE TYPE | ELIGIBILITY | CRITERIA | AFFECTED? | CONCURRENCE |
|-------------|---|--------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| 48FR1439 | Historic Mine | Eligible | A, B, and C | Yes | Yes |
| 48FR7442 | Historic Mine | Not Eligible | | No | No |
| 48FR7443 | Multi-Component Site: Historic Mine/Lithic Scatter | Not Eligible | | No | No |
| 48FR7444 | Historic Mine | Eligible | A | No | Yes |
| 48FR7445 | Historic Mine | Not Eligible | | No | No |

| 48FR7446 | Historic Mine | Not Eligible | | No | No | |
|----------|---------------|--------------|---------|-----|-----|--|
| 48FR7447 | Historic Mine | Not Eligible | | No | No | |
| 48FR7448 | Historic Mine | Eligible | A and D | Yes | Yes | |
| 48FR7449 | Historic Mine | Not Eligible | | No | No | |
| 48FR7450 | Historic Mine | Not Eligible | | No | No | |
| 48FR7455 | Historic Mine | Not Eligible | | No | No | |

The project will have an effect upon historic properties, but with the following stipulations, the effect should be **No Adverse Effect**.

STIPULATIONS

 <u>CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>, <u>SITE PROTECTION MONITORING</u>. The holder of this authorization shall provide an archeologist, with a current BLM Cultural Resources Use Permit, to monitor reclamation activities at the following locations:

T.29N., R.100W. Section 15 SWSE (Doc Barr Mine feature labeled Feature E) T.29N., R.100W. Section 15SESE (Kenyon Mine features labeled Cabin and Portal 1)

The archeologist shall notify the authorized officer prior to beginning site protection monitoring. The archeologist shall ensure that significant historical features and artifacts are not affected by reclamation activities. If the archeologist determines that activities will affect significant historic resources, the holder shall suspend all activities in the vicinity of such a discovery until notified to proceed by the authorized officer. The decision as to the appropriate measures to mitigate adverse effects to significant cultural resources will be made by the authorized officer after consulting with the holder.

The holder shall be responsible for the cost of any mitigative measures.

A report of all archeological activities shall be submitted to the authorized officer within 30 days of completion of the field work.

2. <u>CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>, <u>SITE PROTECTION</u>. The holder of this authorization shall follow the reclamation plans developed by Lidstone and Associates, Inc. in August, 2013. The holder of this authorization shall ensure that the top one foot of any shaft to be filled in shall be covered with rock similar to local tailings. The on-site monitoring archeologist shall guide the selection and placement of this rock.

Violation of this stipulation may result in the holder being subject to the penalties and actions contained in the 43CFR7 Regulations, which are on file at all BLM offices.

3. CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES STIPULATION. Any cultural and/or paleontological resource (historic or prehistoric site or object or fossil) discovered by the holder, or any person working on his behalf, on public or Federal land shall be immediately reported to the authorized officer. Holder shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the authorized officer. An evaluation of the discovery will be made by the authorized officer to determine appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values. The holder will be responsible for the cost of evaluation and any decision as to proper mitigation measures shall be made by the authorized officer after consulting with the holder.

Thank you for your assistance with this case. Should you have any questions, please contact me at (307)332-8432. In correspondence concerning this project, please refer to BLM Report Number 050-2014-107.

Sincerely,

Gina M Clingernan Field Archeologist

cc: LTA, Inc., 421 S. Cedar Street, Laramie, WY 82072

Ben Kniola, LFO Geologist



WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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August 12, 2013

WER 12699
Department of Environmental Quality
Land Quality Division
Letter of Consistency
Governor's Sage Grouse Executive Order 2011-5
Proposed AML Reclamation Under
AML Project 171 at South Pass Area
Seventeen Sites Located in Sage Grouse Core Areas
Fremont County

Marcia Murdock
AML NEPA Coordinator/AML Database Manager/AML Project Manager
Abandoned Mine Land/Division
Department of Environmental Quality
510 Meadowview Drive
Lander, WY 82520

Dear Ms. Murdock:

The staff of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) has reviewed the proposed AML Reclamation Project, AML Project 171, which is located within the South Pass Area and within Sage Grouse Core Areas (SGEO) in Fremont County, for their consistency with the Governor's Sage Grouse Executive Order 2011-5. We offer the following comments for your consideration

The environmental restoration project will remediate environmental degradation of numerous disturbed and abandoned mine sites. The project will occur exclusively on existing disturbed land, so a Density/Disturbance Calculation is not needed. The project will take approximately seven weeks to complete and will occur within the appropriate timing for the benefit of sage grouse (July 1 – March 14).

The reclamation plan includes the appropriate mix of native grasses, forbs and shrubs to benefit sage grouse on the project sites.

The project complies with the SGEO and will benefit both humans and sage grouse. The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality is also investigating impacts to bats and other threatened and endangered species through other processes.

Marcia Murdock August 12, 2013 Page 2 of 2 - WER 12699

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mary Flanderka, Habitat Protection Supervisor, 307-777-4587.

Sincerely,

Mark Konishi Deputy Director

MK/mf/gb

cc:

USFWS

Stan Harter, Lander Region